

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/014596 filed December 19, 2003**

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-23, without prejudice, and add new claims 24-52, in accordance with the following complete listing of all claims ever presented. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled)

Claim 24 (New): A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm, comprising

- (a) a wax phase with a melting point above 25°C which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids, hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof and at least one emulsifier; and
- (b) a water phase.

Claim 25 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein

- (a) the wax phase comprises 1 to 75% by weight and
- (b) the water phase comprises 25 to 99% by weight,
based on the weight of the dispersion.

Claim 26 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the at least one emulsifier of the wax phase is selected from the group of nonionic emulsifiers.

Claim 27 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase melts at about 35 to 50°C.

Claim 28 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 µm.

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Claim 29 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight of water, based on the total weight of the wax phase.

Claim 30 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase contains at least one further component selected from the group consisting of an other wax-like lipid component and an other oil component.

Claim 31 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 30, wherein the other wax-like lipid component is selected from the group consisting of C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty alcohols, mono-, di- or triesters of glycerol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, mono- or diesters of ethylene glycol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 32 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one polymer.

Claim 33 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 32, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 34 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

Claim 35 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one humectant.

Claim 36 (New): A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm comprising (a) 1 to 50% by weight of a wax phase with a melting point above 25°C which comprises, based on the overall weight of the wax dispersion,

- (1) 0.1 to 30% by weight of at least one oil or wax component selected from C₁₄₋₃₀ dialkyl(ene) ethers, C₁₄₋₃₀ dialkyl(ene) carbonates, C₉₋₃₄ dicarboxylic acids or C₁₂₋₃₀ hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof,
- (2) 0.1 to 10% by weight of at least one other oil,

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- (3) 0.1 to 10% by weight of at least one nonionic emulsifier, and
- (4) 0.1 to 40% by weight of at least one other wax-like lipid component; and
- (b) 50 to 99% by weight of a water phase.

Claim 37 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising 0.01 to 5.0% by weight of at least one polymer, based on the overall wax dispersion.

Claim 38 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 37, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 39 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase melts at about 35 to 50°C.

Claim 40 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 µm.

Claim 41 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight, based on the weight of the wax phase, of water.

Claim 42 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

Claim 43 (New): A wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising at least one humectant.

Claim 44 (New): A process for the production of a wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm, and having (a) a wax phase with a melting point above 25°C which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids, hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof and at least one emulsifier; and (b) a water phase, said process comprising

- (1) providing a preliminary emulsion of the wax phase containing a water phase and having a

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- temperature above the melting range of the waxes,
- (2) introducing the preliminary emulsion, under pressure, into a polymer-containing water phase which has a temperature of 1 to 30°C.

Claim 45 (New): A process according to claim 44, further comprising homogenizing the preliminary emulsion at least once before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

Claim 46 (New): A process according to claim 44, further comprising cooling the preliminary emulsion in a heat exchanger before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

Claim 47 (New): A process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion also contains a polymer.

Claim 48 (New): A process according to claim 47, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 49 (New): A process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion is introduced into the water phase of step (B) by spraying under pressure through a nozzle.

Claim 50 (New): A process according to claim 44, wherein the resulting wax dispersion comprises

- (a) 1 to 75% by weight of the wax phase and
(b) 25 to 99% by weight of the water phase,
based on the overall weight of the dispersion.

Claim 51 (New): A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 24.

Claim 52 (New): A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 36.